

CLAIMS

- [001] A dishwasher with a controller for switching on or off, or for selection of operational functions of the dishwasher, characterised in that the controller comprises at least one touch-sensitive surface with switching functions allocated to at least one operating function, wherein the switching function of the touch-sensitive surface may be actuated by light contact and the relevant operating function is thereby switched on or off, or selected.
- [002] The dishwasher with a controller according to claim 1, wherein the at least one touch-sensitive surface of the controller reacts to the change in the electromagnetic field, e.g. capacitively by means of a capacitor or by means of an infrared light curtain or a piezo-element and the relevant operating function is then switched on or off or selected.
- [003] The dishwasher with a controller according to one of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the controller comprises a number of touch-sensitive surfaces with switching functions, each being allocated at least one operating function.
- [004] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller has a flat surface which is disposed substantially in the same plane as the surface in which the controller is located on the dishwasher and preferably ends flush.
- [005] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the viewing surface of the controller is made at least partly of a transparent, preferably matt-finished material.
- [006] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller is covered at least partly by a transparent film preferably of plastic.

- [007] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller is covered at least in part by a flexible metal film which preferably has lettering to identify the operating function of the touch-sensitive surface located thereunder.
- [008] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller is controllably illuminated by one or more lamps preferably in steps.
- [009] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller is only illuminated by one or more lamps when the operating function allocated to the touch-sensitive surface is selected or switched on.
- [010] The dishwasher with a controller according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the touch-sensitive surface of the controller is back-illuminated by a number of lamps preferably a number of light-emitting diodes of different light colour.